

10 July 1956

E06-1462

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Training

SUBJECT: Establishment of School of International Communism

REFERENCE: DTR Memo, dtd 29 June 1956, same subject

1. SRS wholeheartedly endorses your views concerning the need for an increased training effort on Communism and welcomes your initiative in establishing a separate School to teach this subject. In line with para. 10 of reference memo, we shall gladly furnish that School whatever assistance we may be able to offer. This might include, for instance, use of SRS studies for the instructors and students of the School, as well as consultation between instructors and members of our staff, and possibly also occasional guest lectures to be presented by SRS personnel.

2. You have noted in para. 1, reference, "the limited understanding and superficial approach expressed by many of our senior officers". It would therefore seem desirable that your School, in addition to the courses suggested in para. 7, reference, which we assume to be full-time courses, might offer part-time courses or individual lectures or seminar sessions for senior personnel who are rarely available for full-time training.

3. Specialization of training in the widely ramified field of International Communism is obviously necessary and the establishment of your School therefore undoubtedly a major step in the right direction. However, specialization can be pursued to a point at which the study of Communism seems to become an end in itself and "Anti-Communism" the sole raison d'être of this Agency. We are convinced that in all our dealings with Communism (operations, intelligence research and analysis, training), we ought to identify our anti-Communist action as merely part of this Agency's contribution to national defense. Eleven years ago, our nation's enemy was Nazism-Fascism and the Soviet Union was our ally. We do not expect this historic development to be repeated, but we can conceive of other threats to our national security, besides Communism. These considerations indicate that training on Communism ought to be integrated with our over-all effort in the political intelligence and political warfare fields and that we ought to balance "Anti-Communism" with constructive alternatives to Communism, such as the strengthening of democratic forces throughout the world. This integrated and balanced approach seems to us necessary both for substantive policy reasons and in the interest of the proper indoctrination of Agency personnel, which you quite correctly stress in para. 1, reference.

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Chief, SRS/DOI

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13 July 1956.

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